



Return to Interscholastic Athletics

FALL SEASON I

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TODD SANTABARBARA
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, JESSE MERCHANT



Status of Section One

- Section One COVID-19 Task Force
 - President of Section One OCF – Steve D’Angelo

- High School Sports – Began September 29th
 - Low/Moderate Risk Sports (per NYSDOH) – Cross Country, Field Hockey, Soccer, Girls Tennis
 - Girls Swimming & Diving – moved to Fall Season II
 - High Risk Sports – Football, Volleyball, Cheerleading – moved to Fall Season II
 - 1st eligible date for competition – Saturday, October 10th

- Modified Sports – Not being offered in Fall Season I



Fall Season I Schedules

- Maximum 12 game regular season schedule
- Regular season: October 10th – November 14th (tentative)
- Exploring post season options
 - Potential for post season culminating championship event

Protocols/Procedures Resources



NYS Department of Health – Sports & Recreation Guidance



NYSPHSAA – Return to Interscholastic Athletics Guidance

- Considerations for Officials (pgs. 19-21)
- Sport Specific Information (pgs. 22-37)



Game Day Protocols

- Complete personal health assessment
- Notify Sports Desk Assistant, no later than noon, if exhibiting signs/symptoms, etc.
- Confirm daily with host school district and understand school-specific protocols
 - Arrival, Parking, Locker Room & Water accessibility (*when possible, arrive fully dressed*)
 - Health Screening Procedures
- Be prepared for health screening conducted upon arrival at school campus
- Request hand sanitizer be available at scorer's table to be used throughout contest
- Limit exchange of documents/rosters – use of email



Pre-Game Protocols

- Maintain social distancing while performing all pregame responsibilities
 - *Face coverings to be worn upon arrival and throughout pre-game*
- Limit attendees to one official, the head coach from each team and a single captain, while maintaining social distance
- Move pregame conference to center of the field, maintain six feet
- No handshakes permitted



In Game Protocols

- Officials are responsible for game management, which **does not** include monitoring activities on the sidelines, such as social distancing, face coverings, hand washing, etc.
 - *Monitoring obligation remains with the coaching staff and school personnel*
- No hugging, high-fives, shaking hands, or fist bumps
- Avoid conversations within six feet with coaches
 - *Face coverings to be worn if unable to maintain six feet*



In Game Protocols (continued)

- Electronic whistles are permissible
- Officials Table
 - Limit table to essential personnel, including home team scorer and timer
 - Visiting team personnel are not deemed essential (alternative location – pending space availability)
- To maintain social distancing, officiating positions may need to deviate from standard mechanics



Post Game Protocols

- No post-game handshakes
- Upon conclusion of contest, leave the contest area and do not interact with others
 - *Face coverings to be worn as exiting the field of play/campus*

Face Coverings



NYS DOH Sport & Recreation Guidance

“Responsible Parties must ensure a distance of at least six feet is maintained among individuals at all times, whether indoor or outdoor, unless safety or the core activity (e.g. practicing, playing) requires a shorter distance. If a shorter distance is required, individuals must wear acceptable face coverings, unless players are unable to tolerate a face covering for the physical activity (e.g. practicing, playing); provided, however, that coaches, trainers, and other individuals who are not directly engaged in physical activity are required to wear a face covering.”

“On April 15, 2020, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order 202.17 directing that any individual who is over age two and able to medically tolerate a face covering must cover their nose and mouth with a mask or cloth face covering when in a public place and unable to maintain, or when not maintaining, social distance.”



Face Coverings: Summary

- As an independent contractor, PPE is the responsibility of each official
- Misconception: Section One is mandating masks

Fact: Section One **IS** mandating that officials adhere to the NYSDOH guidelines. If you are within six feet, a face covering is to be worn.

- Districts may have stricter guidelines
 - Consult with the district **in advance** and understand their expectations
 - As independent contractors, you have the ability to accept or turn back the assignment



QUESTIONS???
